

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Gerald (Jerry) Bennett, on January 19, 2015 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 137 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Gerald (Jerry) Bennett, Chair (R)
Rep. Virginia Court, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Alan Doane, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Seth Berglee (R)
Rep. Jennifer Eck (D)
Rep. Clayton Fiscus (R)
Rep. Stephanie Hess (R)
Rep. Ellie Boldman Hill (D)
Rep. Kathy Kelker (D)
Rep. Sarah Laszloffy (R)
Rep. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald (D)
Rep. Theresa Manzella (R)
Rep. Nate McConnell (D)
Rep. G. Bruce Meyers (R)
Rep. Matthew Monforton (R)
Rep. Carolyn Pease-Lopez (D)
Rep. Zac Perry (D)
Rep. Andrew Person (D)
Rep. Randall Pinocci (R)
Rep. Keith Regier (R)
Rep. Kirk Wagoner (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: McKenzie Chambers, Committee Secretary
Helen Thigpen, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 12, 1/14/2015; HB 20, 1/14/2015; HB 26, 1/14/2015; HB 129, 1/14/2015

00:01:34 Chair J. Bennett
00:02:47 Rep. Wagoner
00:03:00 Rep. Eck left the meeting.
00:03:10 Chair J. Bennett
00:03:16 Rep. Regier
00:03:39 Chair J. Bennett

HEARING ON HB 12

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:04:02 Rep. Ellie Boldman Hill (D), HD 90, opened the hearing on HB 12, Provide for a decree of dissolution without a hearing when uncontested.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:10:20 Erin Farris-Olsen, Standing Committee on Self-Represented Litigants (SCSRL)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:14:06 Rep. McConnell
00:14:30 Rep. Hill
00:15:49 Chair J. Bennett

Closing by Sponsor:

00:16:06 Rep. Hill

HEARING ON HB 20

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

0:16:38 Rep. Ellie Boldman Hill (D), HD 90, opened the hearing on HB 20, Allow spouse to restore original name as part of dissolution filing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:17:28 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator, Montana Supreme Court and Montana Judges Association (MJA)
00:18:35 Lindy Gryczan, President, Montana Mediation Association (MMA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:19:48 Rep. Doane
00:20:28 Rep. Hill
00:21:03 Rep. Doane
00:21:13 Rep. Hill

Closing by Sponsor:

00:21:54 Rep. Hill

HEARING ON HB 129

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:22:39 Rep. Ellie Boldman Hill (D), HD 90, opened the hearing on HB 129, Clarify who must move to amend parenting plan when one parent relocates.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:24:05 Beth McLaughlin, Montana Supreme Court and Montana Judges Association (MJA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:25:47 Rep. Hill

HEARING ON HB 26

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:26:30 Rep. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald (D), HD 51, opened the hearing on HB 26, Adjust debt limit allowed for summary dissolution.

[EXHIBIT\(juh11a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:30:22 Beth McLaughlin, Montana Supreme Court and Montana Judges Association (MJA)
00:32:19 Linda Gryczan, Montana Mediation Association (MMA)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:33:24 Dominique Meyers, Self

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:35:06 Rep. McConnell
00:35:35 Rep. MacDonald

Closing by Sponsor:

00:36:45 Rep. MacDonald

00:37:00 Chair J. Bennett

00:37:21 Rep. Regier

00:37:28 Chair J. Bennett

00:37:54 Rep. Fiscus

00:38:10 Chair J. Bennett

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 00:38:24

McKenzie Chambers, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([juh11aad.pdf](#))